AUTHENTIC

MEMOIRS

Of the REMARKABLE

LIFE

AND SURPRISING

EXPLOITS

OF

MANDRIN,

Captain-General of the French Smugglers,

Who for the Space of nine Months reſolutely ſtood in Defiance of the whole Army of France.

With the COPY of an intercepted Letter, from one Chief to another, relating ſome curious Particulars, concerning the Taking of MANDRIN.

Tranſlated from the FRENCH.

To which is added,

A Geographical Deſcription of thoſe Cities, Towns and Caſtles on the Frontiers of Savoy and Switzerland, and in the Southern Provinces of France, which were the principal Scenes of Action.

DUBLIN:

Printed for JOHN MURPHY, at Mrs. OWEN's in *Skinner-Row*. M DCC LV.

BRITISH MUSEUM

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Captain-General of the *French* Smugglers.

THAT Smuggling is the Original of many other Vices and Enormities, beſides, thoſe which affect Trade, is evident from the atrocious Villainies perpetrated by the Wretches who follow this illicit and clandeſtine Practice. They are, in Truth, the declared Enemies of their Country, Violators of the Laws of Society, and in Combination againſt common Honeſty and Juſtice. Was the Miſchief of no worſe Conſequence than to defraud the King of his Dues ariſing from the Cuſtoms, it is certainly very great, and an Injury both to the King and Country; becauſe all Cuſtoms are eſtabliſhed for the Maintenance and Support of Government and the Dignity of Majeſty, both which are eſſential to the very Being of a State. In *France*, indeed, but one

Set of People are immediately affected by it, namely, the Farmers-General, who are empowered to collect the Cuſtoms, after they have been ſettled by Arre'ts of State, paying the King ſuch Sums of Money thereout, as by Computation they are ſuppoſed to amount unto. This Method, no doubt, eaſes the Government of the Trouble and Expence of employing an Army of Officers in the Collection; yet I don't apprehend it affords any Relief to the Subject; for I believe the Farmers are more rigorous and oppreſſive in their Methods of collecting theſe Impoſts, than in thoſe Countries where they are gathered by the Officers of the Crown. Becauſe the Farmers having no ſettled Salaries, take the more Liberty in impoſing Exactions upon the Subject, to make their Places the more beneficial to themſelves; and Complaints of their Oppreſſions, unleſs the Grievance is very enormous, are very little regarded: For which Reaſon the Farmers are generally the Objects of the public Hatred; and the People never diſcover a more ſenſible Pleaſure, than in ſeeing any of theſe Officers puniſhed for their Miſdemeanours. And if the Smugglers had injured nobody but the Farmers, the People would rather have rejoiced at, than pitied theſe Gentlemen for the Depredations that have been made upon them of late by thoſe Outlaws. But when they invaded the Perſons and Properties of Gentlemen at their Country Seats, of the Religious in their Monaſteries, and even of Magiſtrates in their ſeveral Towns and Diſtricts; when their Numbers were ſo increaſed that they were divided into large Bodies, each under the Command of ſome bold daring Chief, and all of them well armed, diſciplined, and ready for any deſperate Enterprize; it was high Time for the Government to interpoſe, and put a Stop to ſuch flagitious Proceedings,

ings, which, if ſuffered to go on without Reſtraint, might, in Time, endanger the State itſelf.

In *England*, where the Laws are not ſo ſevere againſt Offenders of this Kind as in *France*, the Smuggler is only impriſoned till he pays ſuch a Sum of Money as it ſhall be proved he has defrauded the King of in his Cuſtoms; unleſs Murder has been committed in reſiſting the Officers in their Attempts to ſeize the Goods ſmuggled, in which Caſe the Puniſhment is certain Death, as indeed it ought to be.

I REMEMBER a very bloody Scene of this Kind acted about ſeven Years ago in that Country. A Gang of them had broke open the King's Warehouſe at *Pool* in *Dorſetſhire* and taken thence a large Parcel of Goods which had been ſeized from the Smugglers and lodged there. The Officers took one of them, and ſent him to Goal, for which the reſt vowed to be revenged. The Collectors of the Cuſtoms having ſome further Information concerning them, ſent two of their Officers with a a Letter to a Juſtice of the Peace, who lived at ſome Diſtance, deſiring he would aſſiſt them in what they came about. They, in their Ride, happened to bait at a Place where ſeveral of theſe Smugglers lived; who knowing the Officers, and ſuſpecting they had ſome Deſign upon ſome of their Fraternity, reſolved to take this Opportunity to execute their Vengeance upon them, in Requital for the Impriſonment of one of their Number. Accordingly they took them in Hand, and were nine hours in torturing one of the Officers, and then buried him alive; the other, they took to an old Turf-houſe, where they kept him in Chains three Days and fed him on Bread and Water; then having cut out one of his Eyes and almoſt the other, and his Noſe near off, with other cruel Circumſtances, they took him to a dry Well, thirty Foot

deep, in which they hanged him till he was half dead, and then threw him in, and hearing him groan, threw great Stones down upon him till they had killed him. In all the Hiſtories I have read, and of all the Barbarities I have heard related, never did I meet with an Inſtance where Cruelty was carried to ſuch an Exceſs as here. We ſee here two Men ſuffering the moſt cruel Torments that Malice itſelf could invent, without any Provocation, and for no other Crime but doing their Duty to their King and Country. So ſtrong an Impreſſion did the Story make upon me at that Time, that I never think of it, even now, but with Horror.

Now, if we ſhould compare our *French* Smugglers with theſe *Engliſh* Deſperadoes, I believe the Firſt will be judged much leſs criminal than the Latter. For I don't find that *Mandrin*, or any of his Gang, were ever guilty of Murder in cold Blood, or killed any Man, but when they were firſt threatened, or in their own Defence: We come now to the Subject of our Narrative.

About the Beginning of *October* 1754, the Court was informed, that the Smugglers committed great Diſorders in the Provinces of *Dauphiny* and *Auvergne*, where they obliged the King's Officers to buy their Tobacco, Salt and other Goods at ſuch Prices as they themſelves put upon them. Upon which ſome Troops were ordered to march to that Quarter, in order to diſperſe theſe ſeditious People, whoſe increaſing Numbers began to render them formidable. For according to the beſt Accounts that could be procured of them, taking their ſeveral Bodies together, even ſo early, they fell little ſhort of 2000 Men commanded by broken Officers, exceedingly well armed, and under ſtrict Diſcipline. The Troops ſent againſt them conſiſted of 6000 Men, headed by a General Officer:

Which

Which ſhews, that the Smugglers were not only to be dreaded for their Numbers, but that by their Courage and Diſcipline they were able to cope with regular Troops. And indeed if we conſider that their Leaders had all of them been Officers in the Army, and whoſe Swords were all their Fortune, we need not wonder that, upon their Diſcharge from the Service, they ſhould fall into a Way of Life ſo ſuitable to their Profeſſion, or that they ſhould keep up ſuch a ſtrict Diſcipline among their Followers, ſince it was what themſelves had been accuſtomed to, and without which, no great Actions or Enterprizes could be executed.

MANDRIN, who was the Chief or General of the whole collective Body, was born in *Dauphiny*, where, and in *Savoy*, he was very well known. He was about thirty-ſix Years old, of a comely Countenance, tall, well-ſet, robuſt, and very nimble and active. To theſe excellent Endowments of the Body was joined a quick Wit and ſound Judgment, a free and polite Carriage, a mild and ſerene Temper, yet quick in reſenting an Offence; to which may be added an Intrepidity which carried him through the moſt dangerous Enterprizes, with an admirable Coolneſs and Preſence of Mind amidſt the greateſt Difficulties and Dangers: So temperate and ſober, that Wine never overcame his Reaſon; ſo patient and indefatigable, that he would venture upon any deſperate Attempt, or undergo any Hardſhips to gratify his Ambition. In ſhort, he ſeems to have wanted nothing but Opportunity, and a Poſt ſuited to his Talents, to make an illuſtrious Figure in the firſt Rank of Honour. During the late Wars in *Italy* he had a Poſt in the *French* Army, in which he behaved with that Affability, Valour and Conduct, as gained him the Eſteem of all his Fellow-Officers. But as he valued himſelf upon his Honour,

which he never ſuffered to be tainted or obſcured with a baſe Action, ſo his Reſentment was never ſo quick or active, as when Reflection, though it had the moſt diſtant Reſemblance of an Affront, and perhaps jocoſely meant, ſeemed to affect his Reputation. Now, a Man ſo exceeding jealous of his Honour, and obliged to converſe (which as an Officer he muſt do) with his Superiors, Inferiors, and Equals, it would unavoidably happen, that Things would ſometimes paſs in Converſation, which his Humour could not eaſily digeſt. This occaſioned frequent Diſputes and Quarrels between him and thoſe Gentlemen of the Army who were not acquainted with his Foible. For though he was not quarrelſome or paſſionate, yet his Notions of Honour were ſo high and elevated, and his Regard for it ſo ſacred and religious, that the very Thoughts of a Blemiſh ſtruck him with the utmoſt Senſibility. This, however, was the chief Cauſe of his quitting the Army, and taking to the Courſe of Life he has followed ever ſince, I mean that of Smuggling.

WHEN he firſt thought of turning Smuggler, he judged it proper to join himſelf to ſome Traders in that Way, in order to underſtand the Nature of the Buſineſs, what Sort of Goods were to be dealt in, and with whom, and upon what Terms to traffic. He ſoon found, that he ſhould meet with a ſtrenuous Oppoſition from the Farmers-General, a powerful Body, and who beſides had the King's Troops at their Command, to ſuppreſs any Encroachments upon them. Theſe were Difficulties enough to diſcourage a Man of leſs Spirit than *Mandrin*.

AMBITION was the Paſſion of his Soul, which not being able to gratify in the Army, as he had much rather have done, and a Method being now pointed out to him to render his Name famous to Poſterity, he reſolves to embrace the Occaſion that

now

'now offered to diſtinguiſh himſelf by ſome me-
'morable Actions and Atchievements that ſhould
'make a ſhining Figure in the Book of Fame.
'For this Purpoſe he ſummons all the Smugglers
'round the Country, and deſires their Attendance
'at an Aſſembly to be held at *Carouge* on the Bor-
'ders of *Savoy* on a Day appointed. At the ſame
'Time he ſends Notice to ſeveral broken Officers
'of his Acquaintance, whom he knew to be Men
of Courage, and capable of facing any Danger, de-
ſires their Company at *Carouge* at ſuch a Time, and
to bring with them as many brave Fellows as they
could pick up.

ALL obeyed his Summons, and a very large Meeting it was. For as his Perſon and Character were well known all over that Country, none doubted but he had ſomething extraordinary to communicate to them, which they impatiently expected to hear from him. He did not keep them long in Suſpence, but ſoon delivered his Mind in the following Harangue.

Gentlemen and Fellow-Soldiers,

'THAT every Man's Fortune is in his own
'Power, is ſo far true, that whoever exerts
'himſelf with Vigour in the Purſuit either of Fame
'or Riches, is rarely diſappointed: Whereas the
'Lazy and Indolent, the Meek and Humble, the
'Timorous and Cowardly, had rather patiently en-
'dure the Buffets of Fortune, and be trampled un-
'der Foot by the Inſolence of Power, than ſeek
'Redreſs by the Means which Providence has put
'in their own Hands. We are placed among the
'Refuſe of Mankind, and accounted the Off-
'ſcouring of the World. Men look upon us as
'Thieves, Robbers, and the common Diſturbers
'of the publick Peace. But how comes it that
'ſuch a Notion is ſo univerſally propagated and ſo

'generally

'generally received? Can any Man ſay, we ever 'plundered his Houſe, or took a Purſe upon the 'Highway? Has not every Man we deal with 'Goods for his Money? Why then are we ſtig-'matized as the declared Enemies of Mankind, 'the Peſts of Society, the Ring-leaders of Sedition, 'and Diſturbers of the Government? Who is in-'jured by our Traffick? It will be anſwered, the 'Farmers, a Body of Men very conſiderable for 'the Poſts they hold, and their Authority and 'Power, which are very extenſive. For by how 'much the Trade of Smuggling increaſes, by ſo 'much will their Gains be diminiſhed. This is 'the horrid Crime which has expoſed us to the 'Cenſure and Reſentment of the Generality. For 'this we are purſued with an Hue and Cry thro' 'the Nation, proſcribed, a Price ſet on our Heads, 'and condemned unheard and without Mercy. But 'now ſuppoſe we ſhould turn the Tables, and ex-'amine into the Grounds of theſe Clamours ſo un-'juſtly raiſed againſt us, will it not be found, that 'the Men who ſet up this Outcry, are the only 'Perſons who can be ſuppoſed to be wronged? 'But how are they injured? Why, negatively: By 'our ſtopping ſome of the Channels of their Gains, 'they are prevented from raiſing ſuch immenſe 'Fortunes on the Miſeries of the Publick, ſo ſud-'denly as they commonly uſed to do. The Pub-'lick ſuffers not by our Trade; for the People are 'glad to have their Neceſſaries ſupplied at reaſon-'able Rates; the Poor are greatly relieved, and 'Mechanics and Handicrafts are better enabled to 'provide for their Families, work cheaper, and 'conſequently ſell their Manufactures at a more 'moderate Price, than when harraſſed and op-'preſſed for Duties on every Thing proper for their 'Uſe in their ſeveral Trades by theſe tyrannizing 'Farmers, who would not leave them their Skins,

if

'if they could take them without endangering the 'Lives of the wretched Sufferers. So that it's plain 'to Demonſtration, that Smuggling is ſo far from 'being prejudicial to Trade, that Commerce re-'ceives infinite Advantages from it; and none but 'theſe Cormorants, who devour Widows Houſes, 'and fatten on the Spoils of the Poor, can pretend 'to receive any Detriment from your generous and 'friendly Method of Trafficking.

'THUS far, my Friends, you ſee it is evident we 'have Juſtice on our Side, and our Practice is laud-'able, beneficial to the Poor, and adds Life and 'Spirit to Commerce in general. What hinders 'then but that you vigorouſly purſue the ſame 'commendable Methods of Traffick you have been 'hitherto engaged in? You will ſay, we are ready 'and willing to continue our Practice; but the 'Hazards and Diſcouragements we meet with are 'ſo many, and our Loſſes ſo great by the frequent 'Seizures the Farmers Officers make of our Goods, 'that our Gains upon the whole are but trifling, 'and hardly ballance the Hazard we run. Beſides, 'when we gather into a Body, with a Deſign to 'make ourſelves formidable to the Officers, the 'Farmers have the Army at their Beck, and in-'ſtantly ſend for a Party of armed Soldiers, with 'whom it is in vain for a Parcel of undiſciplin'd 'Men to engage.

'I AM very ſenſible, Gentlemen, that this is the 'very Truth of the Caſe; yet I hope to convince 'you, before I have done, that the Evil, how great 'ſoever it may ſeem, is not without a Remedy. 'In order to find out this, it will be proper to exa-'mine the Cauſes and Grounds of it. You rightly 'obſerve, that for undiſciplin'd Men to oppoſe 'themſelves againſt a Body of regular Troops, is 'a vain, raſh, and dangerous Attempt. Hence I 'gather, that Want of Diſcipline, not of Num-

bers,

'bers, is the principal Cauſe of your Misfortunes. 'Upon this Foundation, I ſhall endeavour to raiſe 'a Structure that ſhall give you a Proſpect of bet-'ter Succeſs for the future.

'I NEED not tell you, Gentlemen, ſince you all 'know me, that I have long ſerv'd as an Officer in 'the Army, nor are you uninform'd of my Cha-'racter and Reputation, which it don't become 'me to enlarge upon. Theſe Gentlemen you ſee 'by me, were my Aſſociates in Arms, and by their 'Conduct and Bravery were entitled to much bet-'ter Rewards than they have met with. And in-'deed it is but too often the hard Fate of Merit, 'that it meets with no other Recompence than the 'Pleaſure which ariſes from the Conſciouſneſs of 'performing laudable Actions. Now, if you will 'put yourſelves under our Conduct and Diſcipline, 'I will engage to make you, in a ſhort Time, as 'good Soldiers as any in the King's Army, and 'capable of facing any Number of Troops that 'ſhall be ſent againſt you. You ſhall be properly 'regimented and officer'd, and occaſionally divided 'in Bands and Companies, which ſhall make Ex-'peditions in different Provinces; which will oc-'caſion ſuch a Deception to the Farmers, and ſo 'diſtract their Meaſures that it will be impoſſible 'for them to act conſiſtently. For while they are 'ſending their Forces to ſuppreſs a Party of Smug-'glers in one Province, preſently they are told of 'the Progreſs made by theſe Traders in another, 'which requires no leſs ſpeedy Aſſiſtance than the 'other. So that by dividing their Troops we ſhall 'be the better able to deal with them; and in the 'mean while ſo harraſs them, by appearing in dif-'ferent Places at the ſame Time, that their Sol-'diers will have but little Appetite for the Service. 'This is my Scheme, which if you approve, ſhall 'be immediately put in Execution. The Advan-

'tages

'tages reſulting from it are certain, and the Dan-
'gers to be encounter'd not to be regarded by Men
'of true Bravery, eſpecially as it will put us upon
'an equal Footing with our ſworn Enemies the
'Farmers.'

THE Aſſembly approved his Propoſal, and inſtantly reſolved, *Nem. Con.* to put themſelves under his Conduct, and give him a plenary Power to act in all Things as their Head and Chief, and to direct the Affairs of their Society by his own Authority and Judgment. The firſt Thing he did, after he was thus inveſted, was, to divide his People into Centuries, and over every Century to place a Lieutenant, with other inferior Officers. Theſe Officers he ordered to inſtruct the Men in martial Diſcipline according to the Uſage of the Army. His next Buſineſs was to procure Arms and Ammunition for his Men, without which their Diſcipline would be but of ſmall Service to them. After they had been well inſtructed in their Exerciſes, he begins his Expeditions. *Carouge*, a Place on the Frontiers of *Savoy*, not far from *Geneva*, was their uſual Rendezvous, from whence they carried on their Traffick to divers Provinces of *France*, into which they knew how to make their Way, in ſpite of the Detachments of regular Troops ſent to watch them; and they actually made many ſucceſsful Trips into the Country, and return'd again in Safety to their Head Quarters.

THUS, in a little Time, they became ſo famous, that abundance of People went to *Carouge* out of Curioſity to ſee them, and ſome perhaps to deal with them. From *Carouge*, when they had Occaſion to go into *Switzerland*, they forded the River *Arve*, which ſeparates the Territories of *Geneva* from thoſe of *Savoy*, but always travell'd in the Night, and with a great deal of Precaution; after they have gone about a Mile upon the Territory of *Geneva*,

Geneva, they proceed to *Chablais*, paſs the Lake, and then go to *Neuf-Chatel* to buy up what Quantity of Tobacco they want. Then returning by the ſame Route to *Carouge*, they immediately ranged themſelves by Bands under their proper Heads, each of which was under the Command and Direction of an Officer of tried Courage and Conduct, and all acknowledging *Mandrin* for their ſupreme Head and Captain-General, who aſſigned them the reſpective Routes they were to take. Some he ordered to march into *Dauphiny*, others into the *Lyonois* and *Auvergne*, and others into *Franche-Compte*, *Burgundy* and *Champagne*.

THE 6th of *December* laſt he returned at the Head of 100 Men from an Incurſion he had made into the three laſt mentioned Provinces, and the next Day he ſet out from *Carouge* for *Switzerland*; but left on the Confines of *Burgundy* another Detachment under the Command of one of his Lieutenants, with Orders to act as uſual in his Abſence; that is, to keep a good Look-out, and be careful not to be ſurpriz'd by their Enemies, to avoid all Quarrels and Conteſts with the People in the Neighbourhood of their Reſidence in the *Swiſs* Territories, and to behave towards all with ſuch Circumſpection as to give no Room for Complaints againſt them.

MEAN while the Court was extremely alarmed at theſe vigorous Proceedings of the Smugglers, who acted with ſuch Prudence and Regularity, as eaſily ſhewed they were governed by a Head who underſtood what he was about. The Beginning of *November*, the Court had an Account of a ſharp Action between the King's Troops and the Smugglers, in which ſeveral were killed on both Sides; but the Latter being out-number'd, were oblig'd to retreat, and leave a great Quantity of Goods behind them. The Miniſtry at length thought of an

an Expedient, which they imagined would ſoon put an End to theſe Diſorders; which was, to employ Irregulars only againſt the Smugglers, and to give them whatever they ſhould take for their Pains. This ſeemed to be as proper a Method for the Purpoſe as Prudence could ſuggeſt; and yet *Mandrin* has ſo well kept them in Play ever ſince, by his dextrous Management, that they have but little Reaſon to boaſt of the Advantages gain'd over him.

About the ſame Time a Party of the Smugglers made their Appearance at *Roan*, but ſtaid not longer than to bait their Horſes. They gave the Inhabitants Notice, however, that they would return in the Space of three Weeks, and bring with them Salt, Tobacco, Watches, and Gold Snuff-Boxes; and ordered 35,000 Livres to be got ready againſt their Coming. They were divided into three Bands, marching with Drums, Fifes, and other martial Muſick: *Mandrin* their Chief was then dreſſed in White turned up with Red, bearing the Croſs of St. *Louis*.

Soon after this Expedition to *Roan*, where they did no other Miſchief than putting the People into a terrible Fright, they paid a Viſit to *Puy* in *Velay*. Upon their firſt Appearance there, all the Exciſemen, or rather, all the Farmers Officers or Collectors in Town, fled to the Storekeepers of Tobacco, where they put themſelves in a Poſture of Defence, and ſuſtained a Kind of Siege. But their Fortreſs ſoon became too hot for them; for the Aſſailants preſſing them very cloſely, they were ſoon obliged to quit their Poſt and make their Eſcape over the Tops of the Houſes. The Smugglers meeting with no more Reſiſtance, entered the Storekeeper's Houſe, and loaded their Horſes with the Tobacco, *&c.* they found there. One of the Beſiegers being killed in the Attack, the Smug-

glers

glers compelled the Clergy to read the Service over him, committing the Body of their dear Brother to the Ground in ſure and certain Hope of his Reſurrection to eternal Life through *J. C.* Their wounded they carried off with them; ſo that it ſeems the Action, while it laſted, was pretty ſharp and bloody, at leaſt on the Side of the Smugglers, who were expoſed to the Fire of the beſieged from their Holes and Windows, without being able to annoy them much behind their Faſtneſſes.

HAVING diſpatched their Buſineſs at *Puy*, they directed their March towards the Bridge of *Vaux* near *Macon*, and ſo on towards the *Loire*. Their Courſe might eaſily be traced by the Diſorders they committed, and the Contributions they extorted both from the Towns and Villages thro' which they paſſed, under Pretext of bringing them Goods to the Amount. Among others they paid a Viſit to the Lady of Marſhal *Maillebois*, who was forced to take their Word for 50,000 Livres ſhe paid them in ready Money, upon their verbal Aſſurance they would bring her Goods to that Value.

ABOUT the latter End of *November*, the Gang of Smugglers were ſo prodigiouſly increaſed, that they became more formidable than ever. They, without any Fear or Dread of the King's Troops, or any others who ſhould preſume to oppoſe them, went about from City to City, to the great Terror of the People, forcing them to take their Merchandize, and to give them for it the Price which they thought fit to ſet upon it. They pretended to great Probity, and even Generoſity in their Dealings, ſince it was in their Power to exact what they pleaſed, and yet took but a moderate Price for their Goods. *Mandrin* their Chief, was become ſo famous for his bold and intrepid Behaviour, that he gives Title to thoſe who ſignalize themſelves by daring

daring Actions. His Ambition, it's ſaid, has carried him to ſuch a Pitch of Extravagance, that he has inſtituted an Order of Knighthood, and gave the Enſigns as a Reward of Bravery.

THE following remarkable Story is related of this extraordinary Man. Having been informed, that the Lord of the Eſtate, upon which he and his Gang uſually reſided, had promiſed a Reward of 3000 Livres for taking him, alive or dead, went and preſented himſelf to the Lord, and before he made himſelf known, told him, he had brought the Head of *Mandrin*, and without further Diſcourſe, added, he was the Man, and that he expected the Reward he had offered for taking him, or, upon his Refuſal, would plunder his Caſtle. The Lord perceiving he was accompanied by two reſolute Fellows well armed, and apprehending he would be as good as his Word, thought fit to pay him the Reward he had promiſed; upon which *Mandrin* retired.

THE next Place where we heard of them was, at *Lyons*, where they carried on their Trade in their uſual Manner. Two of their Chiefs having dined one Day with a Clergyman in that Neighbourhood. After Dinner, the Clergyman ordered Pipes and Tobacco and a Bottle of Wine to be ſet on the Table, to accommodate his Gueſts in the genteeleſt Manner he could. In the Way of Converſation, they enquired, how much Tobacco he might uſe in a Year? When they were ſatisfied in that Point, they computed how many Years a Man of his Age might probably live, and provided him with a proportionable Quantity of Tobacco for that Term, and obliged him to pay for it.

THE next News we heard of them was, about the Beginning of *December*; that having diſpoſed of all their Goods, they began to deal upon Credit, or, in plain Terms, to plunder without Mercy;

that in this Manner they acted at the ſame Time in diſtant Provinces; for at the very Inſtant they appeared in the Neighbourhood of *Lyons*, there came Advice, that another Body of them had committed the like Outrages in *Champagne*; and that by their different and ſudden Motions, they had hitherto eluded the Purſuit of the regular Troops, who had been able to do little or nothing againſt them; but that the Peaſants, in ſeveral Places, had killed about a Score, and made as many Priſoners.

In the Beginning of *January*, we were informed of the following Exploit of the Smugglers at the Town of *Beaune* in *Burgundy*. The Inhabitants of that Place hearing that a Band of Smugglers were approaching the Town, cauſed the Gates to be ſhut; and the Smugglers not being able to open them, applied to the Scholars of a Seminary without the Gates to get them opened, and threatened to ſet Fire to their Houſe, if they refuſed. The Scholars being terrified with theſe Threats, undertook to get Admittance into the Town, and the Smugglers, following them cloſe as ſoon as the Gates were opened, found the Burghers under Arms; upon which they told them, no Miſchief ſhould enſue, if they would conſent to give them the Sum they demanded, which was 50,000 Livres; but on the Magiſtrates repreſenting the Impoſſibility of raiſing the Money, they lowered their Demand to 25,000, for which they gave Tobacco; having received the Money, they went away quietly.

Upon Advice that the Smugglers made the Principality of *Neuf-chatel* and that Part of *Switzerland* which borders upon the Lake of *Geneva*, the great Magazine for their Effects, the Miniſtry immediately concerted Meaſures to deprive them of that Reſource. Purſuant to which, light troops were ſent after them, by which there was ſome Probability

Probability they would be reduced, becauſe the Smugglers it was ſaid, had fallen out among themſelves, and ſeveral of them began to repent, on a Surmiſe they ſhould be made the Dupes of their Chief *Mandrin*. There ſeems however but little Ground for this Report, ſince he has always acted with the ſame Vigour and Reſolution, and expoſed himſelf as much upon all hazardous Attempts, as he did at their firſt Outſet, and as much as the moſt daring Fellow among them, They ſeem to have been perfectly united as well in their Actions as Intereſts, and have ſtood by one another to the utmoſt Peril of their Lives in the moſt imminent Dangers.

THE latter End of *January*, a ſmart Engagement happened at a Village near *Autun* between the Smugglers, and a Detachment of *Fiſcher*'s Regiment. The Latter being in Purſuit of the Former, had blocked up near forty of them in a Farm-houſe, where they had intrenched themſelves, and fought for ſome Time with great Bravery; but finding they muſt be over-powered, the Houſe being already ſet on Fire by the Enemy, and being determined to conquer or die, the Moment that *Fiſcher*'s Regiment was going to force in upon them, they made a Sally, and fought their Way through their Enemies, ſeveral of whom were killed, and many more wounded, as were ſeveral other Officers, many of whom had their Horſes ſhot under them. The Smugglers were armed in ſuch a Manner, that they were a Match for five or ſix Times their own Number, each Man being prepared with ten Fires.

AFTER this Skirmiſh, *Mandrin* ſent a Meſſage to the Colonel of the Regiment, threatening to treat the Priſoners he had taken in the ſame Manner as *Fiſcher* ſhould treat his. But his Menaces were ſo little regarded, that four of the Smugglers

that were taken, were broke alive upon the Wheel. *Mandrin* allowed his Men 30 Sols a Day.

In another Account of the above Action, we have theſe farther Particulars: That, animated by Rage and Deſpair, they cut their Way thro' the Corps that ſurrounded them, with the Loſs only of five Men killed on the Spot. Their Chief, *Mandrin*, with ſix of his Men, were wounded. Four of them were made Priſoners, and carried to *Autun*, where they were broke alive upon the Wheel, which is the Puniſhment deſtined for all Smugglers that may be taken; tho' ſome think it is inhuman to uſe brave Fellows in this Manner, only becauſe they are not honeſt enough to reſiſt the Temptations which fooliſh Governments throw in their Way by high Duties, and Exciſes without End. After the Action, wherein the Smugglers loſt a good Part of their Booty, ſeveral Troops of Horſe were ſent in Purſuit of them, but could not overtake them; if they had, much Blood would have been ſpilt; for *Mandrin*, though wounded already, would not ſurrender ſo long as he could fire a Piece, or wield a Sword.

The Name of *Mandrin* was now become terrible, eſpecially to the Officers of the Cuſtoms, as will appear from the following Incident. About the 20th of *January* five Officers belonging to the Farmers of the Cuſtoms ſtopt, at the upper End of *Mouffetard* Street, near the *Gobelines*, a Perſon well armed and mounted, having behind him a large Cloak-bag quite full, and aſked him what he had got behind him? The Man anſwered in a rough Voice, that it was *ſmuggled Goods*; *touch them if you dare.* Upon which the Officers went to lay hold of him; whereupon the Fellow gave a Hollow, and then a Whiſtle; adding, *My Name is* Mandrin; *you'll ſee rare Work preſently, my People are coming up.* On the Mention of *Mandrin*, the

the Officers imagined they ſaw a whole Troop of Smugglers ready to hew them to pieces, and ran off with the greateſt Speed. After which the pretended *Mandrin* rode through the Town, without any Body appearing to moleſt him. This Adventure being told to the Company of the Farmers-General, the five Officers, who ſo badly acquitted themſelves of their Duty, were caſhier'd.

NOTWITHSTANDING the Precautions that were taken to prevent *Mandrin* from penetrating farther, after the Affair of *Autun*, he found Means to croſs *Burgundy*, and advance to the Confines of *Auvergne*, attended by thirty-four of his Gang, and forty loaded Horſes. Four Companies of Voluntiers, after purſuing them above a hundred Leagues, came up with them at *Sauveta*, a Village between *Puy* and *Longogne*, where he received a conſiderable Shock, ſeveral Soldiers and ſixteen Smugglers being killed and wounded. *Mandrin* himſelf was taken by an Officer, but releaſed by one of his own People, who ſhot the Officer through the Head with a Piſtol. *Mandrin*'s Lieutenant, called the *Normand*, being wounded in the Thigh, had concealed himſelf in a Village to get his Wound dreſſed, but was found by two Cavaliers, diſguiſed like Smugglers, who carried him to *Valence*, where he ſoon underwent the Puniſhment allotted for ſuch Offenders. Two others were likewiſe taken and carried to the ſame Place. *Mandrin* retired to the Mountains, to wait an Opportunity to rejoin his Companions, who were perfectly well armed, and fought moſt deſperately whenever attacked, ſo that then there were but little Hopes of reducing them but by Degrees.

BUT tho' the Party which *Mandrin* commanded in Perſon, was thus broken and diſperſed, his other Bands had better Succeſs in other Parts, and were ſo far from being ſuppreſſed, that their Numbers

bers daily increaſed, and continued with great Intrepidity to make their Incurſions into *Burgundy*, where the open Country was all in Alarm. But upon Advice that ſeveral Detachments from the Army were marching againſt them, they thought it adviſeable to retire, and open the Scene in ſome other Province.

THE next Appearance they made was in *Alſace*; where they had not been long before they were forced to an unequal Engagement with ſome of the King's Troops; and being defeated, forced their Paſſage into the County of *Liege*.

ABOUT the ſame Time ſeveral Reports were ſpread in Relation to *Mandrin*. One was, that he was actually dead of the Wounds he had received in his laſt Skirmiſh at the Village of *Sauveta*, when he was obliged to take Shelter in the Mountains. Another Report was, that being hard preſſed by his Purſuers, he was obliged to jump out of a Window, broke his Thigh, and was taken. This Story was affirmed with ſo much Certainty, and told with ſo many probable Circumſtances, that it gained Belief for ſeveral Days. But it was afterwards imagined, that he cauſed this Rumour to be ſpread himſelf, in order to amuſe the Government, and make his Purſuers leſs vigilant and active in their Enquiries after him.

ANOTHER Rumour was likewiſe current, that *Mandrin*, contenting himſelf with the Sum of 200,000 Livres (8333*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* which he had acquired by his different Expeditions, had retired to *Switzerland* to enjoy in Quiet the Fruits of his Labours; that his Companions had divided into ſeveral Bands under different Leaders, each of whom had taken the Name of *Mandrin* and was decorated with the Enſign of the Order with which their General had inveſted him: And that one of

theſe

theſe Bands had exacted the Sum of 6000 Livres from the Carthuſian Monaſtery of *Grenoble*.

By another Account we were aſſured, with no leſs Certainty, that *Mandrin* was retired into the *Alps*, where he had thrown up an Intrenchment, and fortified it with five Pieces of Cannon, which, the Reporters ſaid, had put him in a Condition of making Head againſt a whole Army. But all theſe Stories ſeem to have been the fruits of fertile Invention, and propagated by the Authors, either from a Vanity of telling ſtrange Things, or to perſuade their Neighbours that they were more in the Secrets of Affairs than could be known from the common Methods of Intelligence. But to proceed to Matters of Fact.

By Advices received from *Straſbourg* in *Germany*, (now Subject to *France*) *Jan.* 27. we were informed that the Smugglers who had over-run ſeveral Provinces of the Kingdom, and trading with open Force, had furniſhed full Employment to the Troops quartered in *Alſace*. Upon which a Regiment of Dragoons, another of Horſe, one of Huſſars, and two of Foot, received Orders to poſt themſelves in different Places, to watch the Motions of thoſe declared Enemies of the Farmers. But however determined the Government might be to extirpate them, it was eaſily foreſeen that it would coſt a great deal of Labour to accompliſh it. For it had been found by Experience, that in all the Actions, wherein the Troops had been engaged with them, that they were not only all reſolute Fellows, and determined to ſell their Lives at the deareſt Rate, but that as an exact Diſcipline was obſerved among them, as in the Army itſelf; and that their Number was daily increaſing by Deſerters who came in from all Quarters to ſhare in their Glory, or rather in the Spoil they got.

MANDRIN

MANDRIN had now rendered himself so conspicuous by his Bravery, his prudent Measures, and dextrous Management, that the Government, judging of his Abilities from his Actions, believed he would prove a very useful Officer in the State if he could be prevailed upon to relinquish his present disorderly Course of Life. Accordingly very honourable Proposals were made to him if he would quit his dangerous Trade, but without Effect. *Mandrin* always affected to be thought a Man of Honour, even to the nicest Punctilio's, and therefore rejected with Contempt those Offers, however advantageous they might be to himself, since the Condition of his accepting them was, the abandoning those who had put their Confidence in him.

By a Letter received from *Chamberry* in *Savoy*, dated *January* 30, we had the following Intelligence. It runs thus: "Since the Engagement that happened last Month near *Autun* between the Sieur *Fischer* and the Smugglers headed by *Mandrin*, we heard nothing further of the Latter, nor of their Chief for some Time, and we began to take it for granted that they were totally ruined, considering how many Detachments had been posted at different Places to cut off their Retreat on the Side of *Switzerland*; so that we were not a little surprized to see 80 or 100 of those Fellows, all extremely well armed and well mounted, pass by *Carouge* in the Way to *Neuf-chatel*, in which Neighbourhood they now are. The 24th Instant, *Mandrin*, and his Lieutenant *Pierre*, also arrived at *Carouge* with six of their Guards, and staid there till the 26th, when they set forward to join their Men in *Switzerland*. Some of the Inhabitants of *Carouge* had it from their own Mouths, that those two Chiefs after the Action at *Autun*, lay concealed in a Cottage, and then took the Route of *Auvergne*, travelling eleven or twelve Leagues

Leagues every Day. From thence they proceeded to *Dauphiny*, marching with great Precaution, and avoiding all the Places where there might be Troops in Ambuſh. They paſſed the *Rhine*, ſlipt very privately into *Provence*, and croſſed the *Var*; after which directing their March towards the narrow Paſs of *Tende*, they enter'd *Piedmont*, and ſo, proceeding through *Savoy*, arrived the 24th at *Carouge*. This has been a very painful and laborious Progreſs to them, as they conſtantly choſe the moſt rugged Roads and the leaſt frequented Paths.

AFTER this lucky and unexpected Eſcape, *Mandrin* and his Companions would do well to ſeek a Retreat in ſome Place where they were not known. But tho' they have diſplay'd ſo much Prudence in the greateſt Difficulties and Dangers, it ſeems they are not wiſe enough to know when it is Time to have done; for it ſeems they are reſolved to make the World talk of them again."

MANDRIN and his Aſſociates having met with a good many pretty ſevere Rebuffs in forcing their Trade in the *French* Provinces, the Paſſes into which were every-where now narrowly watched and guarded by Detachments from the Army, thought it the moſt prudent Way to retire to their Head-Quarters, and lie ſtill a while, till the Noiſe and Clamour they had raiſed in the Country was ſomewhat appeas'd, and their Enemies, by hearing no more of them, might imagine they were diſperſed, or too ſick of the Lay to renew their Incurſions. But though they had ſuſtain'd conſiderable Loſſes, yet their Courage was not in the leaſt diminiſhed: and they only waited a ſeaſonable Opportunity to begin again; and in the mean while concerted Meaſures for their future Operations.

THE next News we heard of them was in a Letter from *Grenoble*, dated *Feb.* 8. which informed, that *Mandrin*, who had been quiet for ſome Time, had collected his Gang again; and was croſſing *Savoy* and *Piedmont*, in order to penetrate by the Way of *Nice* into *Provence*, and that their Rendezvous was between *Nice* and *Monaco*. They march'd in two Columns, unarm'd, till they came to *Pizola*, the Place where their Effects were depoſited, and there they took up their Arms. The Duke *de Villars*, Governor of *Provence*, being apprized of their Deſign, ſent ſeveral Detachments of his Troops to intercept them, and gave Orders to the Inhabitants of the Places they muſt paſs through, to take up Arms againſt them. The Governor of *Dauphiny*, and thoſe of other Provinces, having had the like Notice, were preſently on their Guard, and took ſuch Meaſures, that if theſe Fellows ſhould again attempt to penetrate into *France*, it would in all Probability be the laſt raſh Act they would ever be guilty of.

MANDRIN had ſoon Intelligence of theſe Preparations that were making for his Reception; and not being willing to tempt his Fate farther than Reaſon and Prudence would juſtify him, he forbore, for the preſent, to undertake an Enterprize which might prove the Ruin of himſelf and all his Aſſociates. However, not to be quite idle, he found Means, to throw a Party into *Dauphiny*, as appears from the following Exploit.

BY a Letter from *Lyons* dated *April* 10, we were informed, that they had received Advices from *Beauvoiſon*, that the Comptroller-General of the Farms of *Dauphiny*, who ſome Months before had boaſted he would give a good Account of *Mandrin*, and produce him either dead or alive, lately met a Man on the Road of *Grenoble*, who engaged to deliver up to him, at a certain Place named, that

that famous Chief of the Smugglers. The Comptroller being credulous, and eager to make good his former Brags, repaired to the Place mentioned, but took along with him an Officer of tried Bravery to aſſiſt him in caſe he ſhould meet with any Oppoſition. But before they reached the Spot, they were ſuddenly ſurrounded by ſeven or eight Smugglers, who beat the Comptroller ſo unmercifully, that they left him for dead, but did not touch the Officer.

SOON after this Exploit, Advice was brought, that the Smugglers, who had aſſembled in *Savoy* to the Number of 300, had begun again their Incurſions into *France*. A Gang of about fifty advanced, *April* 21, within five Leagues of *Grenoble*; and afterwards dividing, croſſed the River at the Ferry of St. *Gervais*. A Troop of Voluntiers was ſent after them, with Orders to purſue them throughout the whole Kingdom.

THUS have we followed *Mandrin* and his bold hardy Comrades through a Variety of Actions, during the ſhort Time of their Reign. We have likewiſe ſeen their Method of trading with the People, which they called honourable Traffick, becauſe they gave them Goods (when they had any) for their Money. But whether they had Goods or not, Money they muſt have, and the Creditor muſt truſt to their Honeſty to bring them the Goods bargain'd for. This Manner of Trading, muſt not, indeed, be denominated Robbery, becauſe a Conſideration is given or ſtipulated. Yet methinks it is ſomething like the Highwayman's ſelling his Rabbit, which the Traveller muſt buy whether he will or no, and give every Doit he has in his Pocket for it too, or elſe he ſtands but a bad Chance for his Life. But ſhould the Highwayman be tried for this Fact, the Queſtion would be, whether, his ſelling his Rabbit in this Manner

would acquit him of robbing on the Highway. I am apt to think his Plea would ſtand him but in little ſtead before an upright Judge; and that the Gallows would be his Portion, notwithſtanding his Pretence of an honourable Traffick.

It muſt likewiſe be allowed, that theſe Smugglers were brave Fellows, and in Time of Danger behaved with an Intrepidity worthy of a better Cauſe. But Bravery in an unlawful Action, and unſupported with Truth and Juſtice, can be deemed no other than the Effect of a hardened, ſeared Conſcience, and an habitual Inclination to vicious Practices. If Courage, abſtracted from the Morality of the Action, were to be conſidered as a Virtue, the moſt infamous Pyrates, Murderers, Houſe-breakers, and Villains of every Denomination, ought to be eſteemed as the moſt virtuous Men in the World, and the greateſt Benefactors to Mankind, for attempting Enterprizes, which every Man, who fears to offend againſt the Laws of God and his Country, looks upon with Abhorrence.

But our *French* Traders don't conſider Smuggling in this Light, and would juſtify their Actions by ſuch Arguments as theſe: That the Farmers, who only can pretend to be injur'd by their late Proceedings, are the Oppreſſors of the People, and by their unmerciful Exactions, occaſion the utter Ruin of many honeſt Families in middling Life, which by their Labour and Induſtry would increaſe Commerce, and bring Wealth and Honour to the Nation; and therefore to cruſh theſe Caterpillars, that devour whatever is green and flouriſhing in our Garden, is doing a real Service to the Publick. For theſe Reaſons, inſtead of being looked upon as Criminals and Diſturbers of the public Tranquillity, they ought to be highly reſpected for their Regard to the Poor, and eſteemed

eſteemed as the beſt Promoters of the Trade and Manufactures of the Kingdom; and inſtead of being loaded with Infamy, and made to ſuffer the moſt cruel Deaths, Juſtice, if ſhe could be heard, would dictate immortal Honours to their Memory in Statues of Marble and Monuments of Braſs.

THUS they reaſon, but upon a wrong Principle. For when a Man ſubmits himſelf to be governed by the Laws of his Country, as every good Subject does, he is not to exerciſe an extrajudicial Power over any of his Fellow-Subjects; but if he has any Grievances to complain of, either of a private or public Nature, he muſt apply to the proper Tribunal, where Juſtice is impartially adminiſtred to all alike, agreeable to the Laws in Force.

NOW the Farmers are appointed by the King, conformable to the conſtitution of the State, and therefore are legally authorized to exerciſe their Employments, and conſequently ought not to be diſturbed in the Diſcharge of their Functions. But if they extend their Authority beyond its due Limits, and convert it into Tyranny and Oppreſſion, they are, notwithſtanding their Power, ſubject to the Law, and accountable for any Tranſgreſſion of it, as much as the meaneſt Subject in the Kingdom. Since then no Man is debarr'd from applying for Juſtice againſt Oppreſſors though of the higheſt Figure, it is Preſumption and Arrogance in the laſt Degree for any Man to take the Execution of the Laws out of the Hands of thoſe who are duly and legally appointed to adminiſter Juſtice. But to leave this Digreſſion, let us proceed to the laſt Act of this Tragi-Comedy.

MANDRIN and his Bands, notwithſtanding all the Methods taken to ſuppreſs them, ſtill found

Means to harraſs and terrify the Farmers, with but little Interruption. For no ſooner was a Party of them defeated in one Province, but preſently News was brought that another Detachment was levying their Tribute in ſome other Parts of the Country. The Troops were ordered to act with Vigour againſt them, Irregulars and light Troops were employed for that Purpoſe as being judged to be the moſt proper to deal with thoſe roving Bands, and all the uſual Stratagems of War had been practiſed to deſtroy them; yet *Mandrin* had the Art to evade, or the Courage and good Fortune to eſcape or conquer the many Rubs and Difficulties that were thrown in his Way. He never flinch'd from Danger, and was generally engaged in the hotteſt Part of the Service; and whenever in a Skirmiſh he was over-powered by Numbers, he never failed to make an honourable Retreat; and, in ſhort, he ſeemed poſſeſſed of all the requiſite Qualifications of a General. Yet the greateſt Generals have ſometimes met with their Match, and been over-reached in their own Trade of War: And this was the unhappy Fate of the brave *Mandrin*.

By Accounts from *Valence*, dated *May* 15, this famous Chief of the Smugglers, who has made ſuch a Noiſe in the World by the Contributions he has raiſed and exacted in many of our Cities and Towns, and the Terror he has ſpread through many of the Provinces, was brought Priſoner there a few Days before, being conducted by a Company of *Morliere*'s Dragoons, Sabre in Hand, and Trumpet ſounding at the Head of the Troop. He was taken in the Night between the 11th and 12th inſtant, in the Caſtle of *Rochefort* in *Savoy*, by a Detachment of 200 Men, conſiſting of Dragoons and Graffins, by a Stratagem which was thus

thus concerted. Theſe Troops, which were ſecretly poſted at a ſmall Diſtance from the Caſtle, detached five of their Body, diſguiſed and without Arms; who offering to join themſelves to *Mandrin*'s Party, that Chief, believing himſelf perfectly ſecure from any Attempts, received them with Pleaſure, and immediately armed them; which was no ſooner done, but they inſtantly ſeized him and carried him off, together with *Pierre* his Lieutenant, Brother of the Major of the Troops, to about thirty Paces from the Caſtle, where the Detachment waited the Event of the Enterprize. *Mandrin* was put into a Poſt-Chaiſe, and without giving him a Moment's Reſpite, was brought away. They were however obliged to ſtay at *Voyron*, where they paſſed the Remainder of the Night. The News of the Taking of *Mandrin* was preſently ſpread all round the Country. The Count *de Hoſpital*, who was then at *Voyron*, deſired to ſee him. As ſoon as he was brought before him, the Count ſaid, *Well!* Mandrin, *you ſee now the Fruits of your Impudence.* His Lordſhip added ſome other Reflections, but they did not in the leaſt diſconcert him; on the contrary he replied with an Air of Gaiety, and with the ſame eaſy Humour, which he had always ſhewn in the Height of his Proſperity. All his Anſwers to the Queſtions put to him by ſeveral Officers relating to his Expeditions, were made with the utmoſt Preciſion. On mentioning his Affair with *Fiſcher*, he ſaid he had no more than eighteen Men with him, and that the reſt of his Troops, conſiſting of ſixty-ſeven Men, were two Leagues off from the Place where the Battle was fought. He had not gone far, when he was ſurpriz'd to ſee himſelf in the Preſence of M. *Levet*; but this Change of Condition did not in the leaſt hinder him from maintaining

his uſual bold and intrepid Air. They found upon him Sixty *Louis d'Or* in Specie, and Bills for 60,000 Livres.

SINCE his being in Priſon, he does not appear in the leaſt changed, but eats and drinks with as good an Appetite as ever; and complains of nothing but of his being taken unfairly: He gives every one Liberty to ſee him, and anſwers with as much Firmneſs, as if he was at the Head of his Troops; and treats as Cowards and Poltroons ſix of his People whom he found there in Irons, and were to be broke the ſame Week. The Priſons of this City being crowded with Smugglers, they were very buſy in clearing them. The Tribunal had condemned forty to the Galleys and to be put in Chains; two others were branded and whipp'd, as were likewiſe two Women. Two young Fellows of *Mandrin*'s Gang, one of the Age of Seventeen, the other of Twenty-two, were executed, the firſt hang'd, and the other broke on the Wheel.

BY another Account from *Valence*, dated *May* 19, we were informed of the following Particulars. The taking of *Mandrin*, the News of which was ſoon ſpread all round the Country, has daily drawn hither a Crowd of Strangers, out of a Curioſity to ſee the famous Head of the Smugglers, who, tho' guarded, has the Liberty of ſpeaking with all who come to the Priſon: He ſtill continues to expreſs abundance of Firmneſs and Courage; and when he was told of the Reports that were current Abroad on his Account, he only ſaid: *'Tis true, I am that* Mandrin, *who have made ſo much Noiſe, but not ſo much Miſchief.* Many are ſurpriſed that, having often declared they might take him, but ſhould not have the Pleaſure of putting him to Death, he did not, when he found himſelf loſt, blow out his own Brains

Brains with a Piſtol, or diſpatch himſelf by Poiſon; for which he had ſufficient Time, according to an intercepted Letter from *Piemontois*, the Chief of one of his Bands, to *Manoc*, another Chief of a Band: The Subſtance of this Letter which is dated at *Elgueblettes*, *May* 12, is as follows:

'IT is with Tears in my Eyes, my dear *Manoc*, 'that I inform you of the Taking of *Mandrin*, the Major's Brother, and three others of 'our Friends, who were carried this Day to *Valence*. Seven or eight of our Servants were kil-'led in defending themſelves. We could never 'have expected ſuch a Surprize; the River *Guier* 'was ſwelled and not fordable, the Night was ſo 'dark, that I would not have ventured to travel, 'and beſides we were on our Guard, and in 'ſuch a Condition that we did not think the '*French* would come to attack us; but you 'will ſee by the faithful Relation which I 'have juſt had from one who was well inform-'ed of all that paſſed, that theſe Obſtacles be-'ing once got over, we muſt all have been un-'done on this unfortunate Occaſion, had we hap-'pened to be there.

'M. *de Sarre*, Lieutenant-Colonel of the *Flemiſh* Voluntiers, ordered forty Soldiers well arm-'ed to march one at a Time, out of *Pont de* '*Beauvaiſin*, laſt Night about Nine o'Clock, and 'to go by Bye-roads, that they might not be 'diſcovered, to *Pravas*-Farm, where our Enemy '*Le Rouxe de la Motbe* was killed. At the ſame 'Time he ordered forty Troopers, diſguiſed like 'Peaſants, and well armed, to march from *A-'breſt* to join them. They proceeded in a Body 'to the Ford of *Romanieux*, where they croſſed 'the *Guier* with the Water up to their Armpits.

'It

'It is Matter of Surpriſe, that, conſidering the 'Darkneſs of the Night, and the Depth and Ra- 'pidity of the Stream, they were not all drown- 'ed. They arrived at length at the Caſtle of '*Rochefort* ſo ſilently, that the Caſtle and the 'Out-offices were inveſted at Three in the Morn- 'ing, before we could have any Suſpicion of it: 'even the Dogs were not alarm'd. Having made 'their Diſpoſition, the Officer at the Head of a 'Party of the diſguiſed Troopers entered the 'Caſtle, broke open the Doors with an Axe, and 'proceeded ſo briſkly, that none of our People 'had Time to look about them. *Mandrin* waked 'at the Noiſe, but it was too late to make Re- 'ſiſtance, and much leſs to think of eſcaping. 'He left his Room, however, whilſt they were 'ſearching below and examining the Farmer, 'and went up to a Garret, where he hid him- 'ſelf under ſome Faggots. It is probable, they 'would never have thought of looking for him 'there if they had not diſcovered his Feet; then 'indeed it was out of his Power to free him- 'ſelf from the Danger. He was taken with the 'Major's Brother, who lay with him, being to 'ſet out together at Five in the Morning. Du- 'ring this Tranſaction at the Caſtle, the reſt of 'the Troopers were ſearching the Farms, where '*Niſmes* was taken, and ſeveral others killed or 'wounded in defending themſelves. The People 'of *Rochefort* and St. *Genis* ſay, they never ſaw 'Men behave with more Courage and Intre- 'pidity.'

'In Truth this Adventure has put me out of 'all Hopes, and no longer can I ſee any Se- 'curity for us: Therefore it's determined that 'we will not ſtay here to be taken. The taking 'of *Mandrin* pays dear for the Death of *Le* '*Roux*, our old Perſecutor. Beware of his Suc-

'ceſſor;

'ceſſor; he has Cognizance of the ſame Affairs, 'and I perceive he has but little Inclination to let 'us live in Peace. Adieu. To-morrow I ſet out 'for *Carouge*. Signed,

PIEMONTOIS.'

THE Reader will obſerve, that the Account given in this Letter of the Taking of *Mandrin*, differs, in ſome Circumſtances, from the foregoing, though in the Main they both agree. The ſame Objection will probably be made againſt ſome other Parts of this Narrative. To which I anſwer, that I tranſcribed the ſeveral Advices as they came to Hand, in Letters from Perſons who were ſuppoſed to have the beſt Intelligence; and as it often happened, that ſeveral different Perſons wrote an Account of the ſame Tranſaction, it's natural to imagine they frequently varied in their Relations according as their Prejudices prevailed for one Side or the other, or from the different Information they had reſpectively received of the Affair.

IT may perhaps too be objected, that theſe Memoirs muſt needs be defective, ſince it may reaſonably be ſuppoſed, that during the Length of Time theſe Smugglers traffick'd in the Manner above related, and conſidering the many Incurſions they made into ſeveral Provinces, they muſt certainly have been engaged in many more Actions than I have given an Account of. This is granted: But if we reflect that the Smugglers Dealings lay chiefly among the Farmers, who choſe to conceal their Loſſes and Vexations, ſince they were ſenſible their Misfortunes would but give the People occaſion to inſult them, it's no Wonder we have ſo few Particulars of the diſagreeable Treatment they met with from theſe Free-booters. And as to the Smugglers, we may be aſſured they never boaſted

of

of the Advantages they gained in this compulsive Trade with the Farmers; because in so doing, they would have acted against their own Interest, and raised the Alarm to such a Degree, that they would have found it difficult to trade at all. Silence and Secresy in the Management of their Affairs were the most likely Methods to procure them Success. So that for these, and other Reasons that might be given, many Incidents and Exploits, that would have afforded a good deal of Amusement, have not come to the Knowledge of the Public. Yet thus much may be said, that by the Matters above related, we are sufficiently acquainted with the Manner and Method of the Smugglers Traffic; of their Strength, Numbers and Courage, and the bold Stand they made against the Forces that were employed to suppress them.

I HAVE one Observation more concerning these Outlaws, and that is, That though they were well armed, yet so strict was the Discipline observed among them, that they were never guilty of barbarous Usage to any Man, nor committed any Violence but when they met with Opposition. At their Head Quarters, on the Borders of *Savoy* and *Switzerland*, they were remarkably quiet and inoffensive, and the Inhabitants were as secure in their Properties, as if they had an Army of their own to protect them. And though they are not to be justified in their Attacks upon the Farmers in *France*, yet the ill Use those Gentlemen made of their Power in oppressing the People, they erroneously imagined, was a sufficient Excuse for treating them so roughly as they did.

BUT the Capture of *Mandrin* has not so wholly engrossed the Conversation of the Inquisitive as to make them neglect the discussing another very material Point, namely, the Place where he was taken, *i. e.* the Castle of *Rochefort*, situated on the Frontiers,

tiers, and within the Territories of *Savoy* which may prove a Bone of Contention between the two Courts, if his *Sardinian* Majeſty ſhould ſtrenuouſly inſiſt on Reparation for ſo notorious a Violation of his Rights. For it is affirmed, that M. *de Morliere*, Commander of the Detachment employed in this Expedition, entered that King's Dominions, with an armed Force without Licence, killed ten or twelve Peaſants his Subjects, and wounded ſeveral more, among a great Number that were aſſembled to oppoſe his Enterprize. The Governor of *Savoy* immediately diſpatched a Courier to *Turin*, to acquaint his *Sardinian* Majeſty with the whole Affair, and all the Circumſtances that attended it; and at the ſame time ſent a Senator of *Chamberry*, and a Lieutenant of Cavalry, to *Grenoble*, to reclaim the Priſoners: But it is very probable their Demand would not be complied with, though it is very certain that the *French* Troops, in breaking into the Caſtle in Queſtion, and committing Hoſtilities on the Territory of *Savoy*, is a manifeſt Infraction of the Law of Nations. How this Affair will end is uncertain; but it is thought the Court of *France* will endeavour to palliate this unlucky Adventure by convincing his *Sardinian* Majeſty of the Neceſſity of taking ſuch Meaſures, ſince no other that had been purſued had availed, to ſuppreſs a Set of deſperate Villains who had diſturbed the Peace of the Kingdom, and been guilty of ſo many notorious Outrages in ſeveral of the Provinces; and preſuming that his *Sardinian* Majeſty will not permit his Towns and Caſtles to be made Aſylums for the Protection of Banditti and public Plunderers; nor perſuade himſelf, that this Attempt in his Dominions to ſeize the rebellious Subjects of *France*, was deſigned to interrupt the Friendſhip and Harmony ſubſiſting between the two Crowns. However, the King of *France*, to ſhew how unwilling he is to diſoblige his *Sardinian* Majeſty,

jeſty, has promiſed that a ſtrict Examination ſhall be made into the Affair; and if his Officers have exceeded their Commiſſion by unneceſſary or unwarrantable Acts of Hoſtility, they ſhall be brought to a ſevere Account for their Exceſſes.

By a Letter from Valence, *dated* May 25, *we have the following Particulars relating to his Trial.*

'SINCE the 13th inſt. that the famous *Mandrin* was brought to our Goal, his Trial has laſted: It ended Yeſterday. He was examined every Morning and Afternoon. The firſt Day of his Examination M. *Levet* made him ſit down, called him Monſieur *Mandrin*, and aſked him a great many Queſtions, to which he anſwered with a chearful and confident Air. Next Day he was confronted with Grand *Bertie*, his Servant, who was broke on the Wheel the ſame Day, and who having been guilty of Murder and Deſertion from ſeveral Regiments, had merited his Puniſhment for former Crimes. This Fellow accuſed *Mandrin* in his Depoſitions, and diſcovered all he knew on being put to the Torture.

'ON the 16th was executed one *Lapierre*, formerly a Drummer and Deſerter from *Gante*'s Voluntiers, who having diſcovered all was not put to the Torture. This Man, at the Time of his being taken, was *Mandrin*'s Groom. He was alſo confronted with his Maſter, and maintained the whole of his Confeſſion to his Face; *Mandrin* made no Anſwer, ſave only, that the Evidence of a Servant ought not to be regarded. *Lapierre* replied, that he ought not to be ſuſpected of impoſing upon an earthly Court, as he was going to appear immediately before the Tribunal of God. The paſſing of Sentence on Grand

'*Bertie*

'*Bertie* and *Lapierre*, who acknowledged the 'Juſtice of their Puniſhment for the Expiation of 'their Crimes, made ſome Impreſſion on *Mandrin*, 'eſpecially when they were delivered to the Exe-'cutioner; however, he went immediately to 'drown in Wine thoſe gloomy Thoughts which 'ſeemed to trouble him. He has been ſucceſſively 'confronted with other Priſoners of his Gang, and 'ſeveral Witneſſes of his Exploits, but would ne-'ver ſay any Thing againſt his Comrades; in-'ſiſting, that Honour required this of him, and 'that the Actions of others did not concern him, 'who never concealed his own Actions. Yeſter-'day Sentence was paſſed on him to be broke upon 'the Wheel, but to be previouſly put to the Tor-'ture.

'At firſt he would neither ſee nor hear any 'Prieſt or Monk; but a Jeſuit has at laſt brought 'him to Confeſſion. As they were bringing him 'here, on ſeeing the Major's Brother, who was 'taken with him, much afflicted at the Thoughts 'of being dragged to a Goal, and afterwards ſuf-'fering an ignominious Death, he told him, *it 'was not worth being grieved at, a bad Quarter 'of an Hour would be ſoon over.*

'*MANDRIN* is the Son of a Peaſant who 'dealt in Cattle, near *La Cote St. Andre* and *St. 'Marcelin* in *Dauphiny*. His firſt Employment 'was that of a Dealer in Horſes, which he fol-'lowed ſome Years; but having committed a 'Murder, and fled from Juſtice, he was con-'demned in his Abſence, by the Parliament of '*Grenoble*, to be broke upon the Wheel. Some 'Years after, a Warrant for apprehending him 'was iſſued by the Officers of the Mint at *Lyons*, 'for counterfeiting the Coin; for which Crime 'his Brother was hanged at *Grenoble*. Having 'thus twice eſcaped the Puniſhment he deſerved,

'and

'and willing to provide for his future Safety, he 'made himſelf Head of the Smugglers which has 'brought him to the Scaffold, where he will fi- 'niſh his famous Career. He probably foreſaw it; 'for the People crouding very much to ſee him 'one Day this Week, as he was going through 'the Yard to the Court Room, he complained of 'their haſty Curioſity, ſaying, *they would ſee him 'ſoon enough at the Place of Execution. Mandrin* 'is a Man middle-ſiz'd, well made, long-viſaged, 'with blue Eyes, and red cheſnut Hair: He is 'ſtrong, robuſt, and has ſomething brutal in his 'Countenance, which agrees very well with his 'continual Swearing. He ſmokes for ever, drinks 'a great deal, and loves good Eating.'

THE following is the Sentence paſſed upon *Lewis Mandrin* on the 24th of *May*, and executed on the 26th.

Gaſpart Livet, *Lord of* Malaval, *Counſellor, Secretary to the King, and Commiſſary of the Council, nominated by Arrets of the* 3*d of* December, 1738, *the* 2*d of* October, 1742, *and the* 2*d of* April, 1743, *to inſtruct and judge without Appeal, and in Caſes of the laſt Reſort in the Trial of Smugglers, of thoſe engaged in illegal Purſuits*, &c. *in the Provinces of* Dauphiné, Languedoc, Lyonnois, Burgundy, Auvergne, *&c.*

WE the Commiſſioners of the Council, by a Judgment without Appeal, and in the laſt Reſort, in Virtue of the Power received by the ſaid Arret of the 3d of *December* 1738, and by the Advice of the Graduates, and aſſiſting Judges, of the Number required by the Ordonnance, have declared *Lewis Mandrin*, a Native of *Dauphiny*, duly convicted of having carried on a contraband Trade,

Trade, in an unlawful Aſſembly, and by Force of Arms, during the two Years that he has been obliged to leave his Abode, on account of his having counterfeited the Coin, and committed Murder; and particularly for having been the Chief of a Gang of eleven or twelve Smugglers, *&c.* For the Reparation of which, and the other Crimes proved againſt him, we have condemned the ſaid *Lewis Mandrin* to be delivered to the Executioner of Juſtice, to be ſtripped to his Shirt, with a Rope about his Neck, and a Writing affixed to him, containing theſe Words in large Characters, 'The 'Chief of Smugglers, of Criminals guilty of High 'Treaſon, of Aſſaſſins, Robbers, and Diſturbers 'of the Public Peace,' holding in his Hand a lighted Wax Candle of the Weight of two Pounds, before the Cathedral Church of *Valence* in *Dauphiny*, where the ſaid *Mandrin*, bare-headed and kneeling, ſhall declare with a loud Voice, that he begs Pardon of God, of the King, and of the Officers of Juſtice, for all the Crimes and Villainies by him committed. He ſhall then be taken to the Place of Execution, and there have his Arms, Legs, Thighs, and Back broken, while alive, on a Scaffold prepared for that Purpoſe, and at length be put on a Wheel with his Face turned towards Heaven, where he is to end his Life. After which, his dead Body ſhall by the Executioner be expoſed on the Gibbet of that City. Previouſly to this, the ſaid *Mandrin* ſhall be put to the Queſtion ordinary and extraordinary by Torture, in order to obtain from his own Mouth the Truth of any of the Facts mentioned in his Trial, together with the Diſcovery of his Accomplices. We alſo hereby declare all and each of his Goods and Effects confiſcated to the King, *&c.*

Given in the Preſidial Court for criminal Cauſes at Valence *in* Dauphiné, *the* 23*d of* May,

1755. *Signed*, Livet, Gaillard, Luiller, Bolozon, Bachaſſan, Rouveyre de Leytang & Cozon.

THAT *Mandrin* was bold, reſolute, and undaunted in the moſt imminent Dangers and the moſt hazardous Enterprizes, in carrying on his illegal Traffic, is not to be doubted, ſince it appears in every Action wherein he was concerned. This Intrepidity he might naturally acquire in the Army, where Death and Dangers were the daily Objects of his Attention, and where an Emulation to be diſtinguiſhed by Bravery was the only Way to Preferment. *Mandrin*, however, though not inferior to any Officer in the Army, either in Courage or Conduct, yet finding thoſe Rewards, which, in his Opinion, his Merit entitled him to, advance but ſlowly, and his high Spirit not brooking the ſupercilious Demeanour of ſome of his ſuperior Officers he quitted the Camp, though not the Hardineſs and Ferocity he had gained there.

BUT how bold or daring ſoever a Man may ſhew himſelf when his Life is in Danger, yet this is not always an infallible Sign of a cool and well-governed Courage. Deſpair has often made Cowards bold, and inſpired them with a Reſolution they were naturally Strangers to; and Deſperadoes, who have broke through all Reſtraints of Religion and Conſcience, who believe nothing of Futurity, and imagine the worſt Hell they can be puniſhed with, is Poverty and Contempt; ſuch Men, who have nothing to fear, unleſs the Puniſhment inflicted by the Laws if they are taken, run all Hazards in perpetrating their Villainies; Murder, Rapine, and every other Crime, they make no more of than they do of eating when they are hungry, or ſleeping when they are weary. Conſcience being ſtupified

ſtupified or maſter'd by a long and uninterrupted Courſe of Wickedneſs, has loſt its Efficacy and is no longer heard. If ſome uneaſy Reflection happens to ſtart up, and ſeems to forbid the Proſecution of ſome villainous Enterprize, it is inſtantly drowned in a Flood of Wine, or ſilenced by the Clamours and Outrages of debauched Companions.

BUT if it ſhould happen that Juſtice overtakes the Offender in the Career of his Villainies, and he ſees Death, which he can no longer eſcape, with all its dreadful Apparatus, the Rack, Wheel, and the moſt exquiſite Torments waiting for him; Conſcience then, whether he will or no, reſumes her Tribunal, and calls him to a ſtrict Account for all his paſt Enormities; it paints his former Actions in their true Colours, which now appear ſo ugly as to frighten him with Terror and Amaze. But his Terror is infinitely aggravated with the Apprehenſion that, after he has undergone all the Tortures that his Fleſh is capable of ſuſtaining, he muſt immediately appear before a Tribunal, where by an inexorable Judge and an irrevocable Sentence, he will be inevitably fixed in a State of Miſery beyond Redemption. Deſpair, Horror, and Confuſion ſeize his amazed Soul, and he ruſhes out of that Life which he has ſo much abuſed, into another with a certain Expectance of meeting with a Retribution that alone can be adequate to the Crimes he has been guilty of.

MUCH in the ſame Manner has it fared with the intrepid *Mandrin*, who was executed *May* 26, purſuant to the Sentence paſſed upon him the 23d. 'Tis true, both before, and during the Time of his Trial, he ſeemed as if quite unconcerned, not in the leaſt diſconcerted at his approaching Fate, which he knew would be attended with the moſt

dreadful and terrifying Circumſtances. He knew that the Duration of his Tortures would be but ſhort, and was firmly perſuaded Death would put a final Period to all his Pains, and therefore reſolved to bear all with as much Firmneſs as he had encountered Danger in the moſt hazardous Enterprizes.

HOWEVER, the Scene was ſoon changed, when the Prieſt came to do him the laſt good Office that it was poſſible to do him in this World, that is, to bring him to a due Senſe of his Guilt, and to perſuade him to a ſincere Repentance.

HE expatiated largely on the Outrages and Depredations he had committed againſt Perſons who had never offended him; the many Murders that had been perpetrated by him, and through his Means, upon his innocent Fellow-Subjects who never deſigned him any Harm; and his Offences againſt the King, his Laws and Ordinances, which he had notoriouſly broke through; that he had deſtroyed, as much as in him lay, the Peace and Tranquillity of the Public and the Harmony of Society: All which were Crimes of ſo black and odious a Nature, that nothing but his Death could expiate. That ſince it was not in his Power to make an adequate Satisfaction for the Injuries he had done his Country, yet it became him to do what was in his Power, namely, to confeſs his Crimes with a ſincere Contrition. Which if he did with a full Conviction, though he could have no Hopes of Mercy from his Earthly Judge, yet he had good Ground to aſſure himſelf of Pardon from his Heavenly.

THIS pious Harangue of the good Prieſt made a ſenſible Impreſſion on *Mandrin*. He began to view his paſt Actions in a Light different from whatever he had done before; and by Degrees was brought to acknowledge the Heinouſneſs of his Crimes and

the

the Juſtice of his Sentence. But at the ſame Time ſaw the Impoſſibility of making Reparation for the Wrongs he had done his Country or the Breaches he had made in the Laws of God. Theſe Conſiderations filled his Soul with gloomy Reflections, which ſtill increaſed by the nearer Approach of his Death. His Confeſſor uſed the beſt Arguments he could to open his Mind to better Proſpects. How far he prevailed is not in our Power to ſay: Let us hope the beſt.

THUS far our *French* Author, to whom all the Places mentioned in theſe Memoirs were well known; though not to the *Engliſh* Reader for whoſe Information therefore I have here added a Deſcription of the particular Cities, Towns, *&c.* where moſt of the Exploits before related were performed. And firſt I ſhall give a curſory View of *France*, *Savoy*, and *Switzerland*, the Sovereignties in which theſe Smugglers exhibited their Scenes of Action.

FRANCE, from Weſt to Eaſt, is 600 Miles in Length; from North to South, 500 Miles in Breadth, and is divided into 15 large Provinces.

As to the Conſtitution of the Government, it is certain they were once a free People, until the Reign of *Lewis* XIII. and every Province almoſt had its Parliament, without whoſe Concurrence no Affairs of Conſequence were tranſacted. To Cardinal *Richlieu* they are indebted for the Deſtruction of that Conſtitution, and rendering *France* an abſolute Monarchy in that Prince's Reign. The Females, by the *Salique* Law, are never ſuffered to aſcend the Throne.

THE Forces of *France* in Time of Peace, are about 200,000, and in Time of War 400,000, beſides a conſiderable Fleet of Men of War; they had not leſs than an hundred Ships of the Line in the Reign of *Lewis* XIV.

THE

THE ordinary Revenues of the Crown amount to about fifteen Millions Sterling, and they are enlarged at Pleaſure, by raiſing the Value of the Coin, compounding State-Bills, or Debentures, and other arbitrary Meaſures.

THE uſual Method of raiſing Taxes is by the *Taille*, or Land-Tax.

THE *Taillon*, which the Nobility are obliged to pay as well as the Commons, is only another Land-Tax.

By Aids, which we call Cuſtoms on Merchandize.

BY Gabels, which is a Tax upon Salt.

BY a Capitation, or Poll-Tax.

BY the Tenths of Eſtates and Employments.

BY the Sale of Offices of Juſtice.

BY a Tenth, or Free Gift of the Clergy; and,

BY Confiſcations and Forfeitures.

THE Accounts in *France* are kept in *Livres*, *Sols*, and *Deniers*; twelve *Deniers* make a *Sol* or *Sou*, twenty *Sols* a *Livre*. They reckon alſo by Crowns (*Ecus*); a Crown contains three *Livres*, or ſixty *Sols*, and was formerly of equal Value with 4*s*. 6*d*. *Engliſh*, but is worth at preſent but between twenty and thirty-two Pence of our Money, more or leſs, according to the Fluctuation of the Exchange. The other Monies of *France* are a *Double*, which is two *Deniers*; a *Liard* the fourth Part of a *Sol*; Pieces of 3 half and five *Sols*. The Quarter and the Half-crown, the *two Livres* Piece. They have alſo Gold, Crown Pieces, *Louis d'Or*, and half *Louis d'Or*; the *Louis d'Or* is now worth twenty-four *Livres*, or about twenty-four Shillings.

THE eſtabliſhed Religion is *Popery*, ſince the *Proteſtants* have been ſuppreſſed, as they were in 1684; but they would never admit the Inquiſition here: The Pope's Supremacy was rejected till the preſent Reign; but, according to the Conſtitution *Unigenitus*,

Unigenitus, the Pope's Supremacy ſeems now to be eſtabliſhed, and every Eccleſiaſtick is obliged to ſubſcribe that Conſtitution; though every Parliament oppoſed this Meaſure with great Warmth, as well as the Clergy.

THE Number of People in *France*, before the Perſecution and Expulſion of the *Proteſtants*, was computed at twenty Millions; but now they are not more than fifteen Millions; their continual Wars, as well as Perſecutions, having much leſſened their Numbers.

THERE are ſeventeen Archbiſhopricks in *France*, one hundred and five Suffragans, and eighteen Univerſities, beſides ſeveral Academies.

THE Language of *France* is a Mixture of *Latin* and *High-Dutch*, or *German*, but the *Latin* prevails moſt. It has been very much improved and refined by the Academy of *Paris*, and is ſpoke in moſt of the Courts of *Europe*.

SAVOY was antiently poſſeſſed by the *Allobroges*, and reduced under the Obedience of the *Romans* in the Reign of *Auguſtus*; and, having been ſucceſſively ſubject to the Northern Nations which deſtroyed the *Roman* Empire, it was, at length, incorporated with the Kingdom of *Burgundy*, on the Ruin whereof the Emperor of *Germany* poſſeſſed himſelf of it, and conferred it on *Hugh*, Duke of *Saxony*, creating him Duke of *Saxony* and Prince of *Piedmont*, in which Family it ſtill continues.

THE King of *Sardinia*, its Sovereign, is an abſolute Prince, and the Crown hereditary; but the Adminiſtration of the Government, in the ſeveral Territories he poſſeſſes, is committed to as many Councils, and they are governed by their reſpective Laws, where the King does not interpoſe. *Savoy* is but a barren Country; and, lying on the *French* Side of the *Alps*, whenever a War breaks out, is immediately

immediately ſeized by the *French*, but uſually reſtored upon a Peace.

THE Religion of the King of *Sardinia*'s Subjects, is generally Popery; though there are ſome Proteſtants in the Valleys of the *Vaudois*, who have undergone ſeveral ſevere Perſecutions, but by the Mediation of the Proteſtant Powers, are ſometimes ſuffered to live at Quiet.

SWITZERLAND, formerly *Helvetia*, is, in Length, from Eaſt to Weſt, 260 Miles; in Breadth, from North to South, 100 Miles; and is bounded by *Alſace* and *Swabia* in *Germany*, on the N. by the Lake of *Conſtance*, *Tyrol*, and *Trent*, on the E. by *Italy* on the S. and by *France* on the W.

IT is divided into 13 Cantons, ſix whereof are Proteſtant, and ſeven Popiſh.

SWITZERLAND lies upon the *Alps*, the higheſt Mountains in *Europe*, and every Canton almoſt is ſeparated from the other by a particular Chain of Mountains; and there is a Lake almoſt on every Mountain.

THE Mountains being covered with Snow great Part of the Year, and their Lakes and Rivers frozen, the Air is very cold in Winter; and, when the Hills are cool in Summer, the Valleys are very warm. It is Winter on the North-Side of a Mountain ſometimes when it is Summer on the other; and the Harveſt-Time of one is the Seed-Time of the other. Their Mountains produce good Timber and Paſture; and they have large Flocks and Herds of Cattle, with Game, Fiſh, and Fowl in Abundance, but very little Corn or Wine. Their Manufactures and Traffick are very inconſiderable, and conſequently they are very poor; and for that Reaſon prohibit the Wear of all Lace and Jewels, and are extremely frugal. They lay up Magazines of Corn in every Province againſt a Time of Scarcity. They are a brave, hardy People, and the whole

Country

Country is regimented, and ſerve by Turns in foreign Wars, where they get more than by any Employment at Home.

BEING oppreſſed by the *German* Emperors to whom they were ſubject, they threw off their Allegiance, and erected themſelves into independent States; and, at the Treaty of *Weſtphalia*, they were acknowledged free and independent, as the United Provinces were at the ſame Treaty.

BERN and the larger Cantons, are Ariſtocracies. In *Bern*, which is the largeſt, the Legiſlative Power is lodged in the Great Council, or Diet, conſiſting of 299 of the moſt ſubſtantial Inhabitants; and the Executive Power in the Senate of 27, elected out of the Great Council. In the little Democratical Cantons, the Legiſlative Power is lodged in the diffuſive Body of the People; and every Male above ſixteen, whether Maſter or Servant, has a Vote in making Laws, and in the Choice of Magiſtrates. There is a general Diet of all the Cantons held at *Baden*, at *Midſummer*, annually. The Proteſtants alſo have a general Diet of their Perſuaſion, and the Papiſts another of theirs, but they ſeldom ſit longer than a Month.

HAVING thus given a general View of the different Territories, in, to, and from which the Smugglers carried on their Traffick, I ſhall next deſcribe very conciſely, the ſeveral Cities, Towns, *&c.* in or near to which they diſtinguiſhed themſelves by ſome remarkable Occurrence or notable Exploit, either againſt the Farmers, or the *French* Troops that were ſent to ſuppreſs them.

NEUF-CHATEL, from whence the Smugglers fetched their Tobacco to traffick within *France*, is a Republick, and an Ally of the *Switzers*, though the King of *Pruſſia* is ſtiled Sovereign of its Territory.

THE City of *Geneva*, near to which they paſſed in their Way to *Neuf-chatel*, is ſituate on the River *Rhone*, at the Weſt-End of the Lake *Lemain*, 70 Miles S. W. of *Bern*, and 40 Miles N. E. of *Lyons* in *France*, and is about two Miles in Circumference; admired for its Situation on the Lake and River and the fine Proſpects it affords. The Territories of *France* and *Savoy*, come up to the very Walls; and they would long ſince have been reduced under the Obedience of one or the other, if they had not been under the Protection of the *Swiſs* Cantons. The Inhabitants of *Geneva* are ſaid to be about 30,000 Souls. Hither the *Calviniſts* from *England*, *France* and *Holland* frequently reſort for Education in the Univerſity; as others do to *Luſanne*, another Univerſity, ſituate in the Canton of *Bern*, on the North-Side of the Lake *Lemain*. The Legiſlative Power of *Geneva* is lodged in a Council of 200, and the Senate conſiſting of 25 Members, have the Executive Power. The Clergy here have neither Glebe or Tythes, but a Revenue of 50*l. per Ann.* paid by the States; and there are no Salaries allowed to their Fellows or Profeſſors in the Univerſities, but are maintained chiefly by their Pupils.

THE Language in *Switzerland* is either *High-Dutch*, *French*, or *Italian*, according to the Countries which lie next them. At *Geneva* they ſpeak good *French*, but in other Parts of *Switzerland* it is very much corrupted.

CHAMBERRY, a conſiderable City and Caſtle of *Italy*, the Metropolis of *Savoy*. It is a Parliament City for this Principality, ſubject to the Duke of *Savoy*. Whenever a War breaks out on that Side, the *French* generally become Maſters of it, but on the Concluſion of a Peace it always returns to its right Owner. It ſtands 27 Miles N. E. of

E. of *Grenoble*, 44 S. of *Geneva*, 55 W. of *Lyons*, 100 N. W. of *Turin*, and 270 S. E. of *Paris*.

THE Bridge of *Beauvoiſin*, from which the Detachment was ſent to ſeize *Mandrin* in the Caſtle of *Rochefort*, croſſes a little River that falls into the *Rhone* at a ſmall Diſtance from it. *St. Genis* ſtands upon the ſame River, but nearer to the *Rhone*; the Caſtle of *Rochefort* is but a little Way from it; and *Carouge* at no great Diſtance from the Caſtle; all ſituate on the Frontiers of *Savoy*.

AUTUN, (near to which was the Farm-Houſe, in which *Mandrin* was beſieged with a Detachment of *Fiſcher*'s Regiment, through which he fought his Way and eſcaped) is an antient and epiſcopal City of *Burgundy*, the Capital of the Country of *Autunois*, about 14 Leagues S. W. from *Dijon*, it was a conſiderable Town of the People called *Ædui*, when the *Romans* conquered *Gaul*, *Auguſtus* made it a *Roman* Colony, for which Reaſon it took its Name; *Dunum*, from *Dun*, which ſignifies an Hill, expreſſes its Situation; for it lies at the Foot of three high Hills, on the Eaſt and South, the latter of which abounds with ſo many Springs, that they ſupply the whole City with Water. The River *Aroux* waſhes the antient Walls of it, the Remains of which are ſo ſtrongly built, and the Stones of it ſo ſmooth and well joined, that one ſhould think one ſingle Stone ſurrounds the whole, and that it is but one entire Rock. The Town is about a Mile in Length, almoſt as much in Breadth; in the Middle of it is a fine Square. Here are ſeveral Remains of Antiquity. The *Druids* had here a Senate, which is ſtill called *Mont-Dru*: That which is called *Janitoye*, was a Temple of *Janus*; *Mont-Jou* was a Temple conſecrated to *Jupiter*; there are alſo Remains of a Temple of *Diana*. The Biſhop of *Autun* is Suffragan of the Archbiſhop of *Lyons*, and has in his Dioceſe 611 Pariſhes and 14

Abbeys. There are eight Pariſhes in the City and Suburbs, two Hoſpitals, a noble Seminary for the Education of young Clerks, which has 3000 Livres a Year Income, and another much leſs, which has no other Revenues than what the King pleaſes to allow it.

LYONS is the Capital City of *Lyonnois*, on the Conflux of the *Saone* and the *Rhone*; it is one of the fineſt and moſt conſiderable Cities in *Europe*, for its Situation, Extent and Riches. It was founded in the Year 41 or 42, before the Chriſtian Æra, by *Lucius Manucius Plancus* who was Conſul with *Æmilius Lepidus*; he peopled it with *Roman* Citizens, who had been driven from *Vienne* by the *Allobroges*. However, he did not give it a *Roman* Name; but the Town kept the Name of *Lugdun*, which the *Gauls* had beſtowed on the Hill upon which that Place was built, and which in their Language ſignified the *Hill of Ravens*. After *Auguſtus* had ſeparated from the *Celti* ſeveral Provinces, which he joined with *Aquitania*, he ordered that *Lyons* ſhould be the Capital of a Province, which from thence was called *Lugdunenſis*. *Lyons* became afterwards under the *Roman* Emperors, one of the moſt conſiderable Cities in the Empire. There was nothing more famous in *Gaul*, after the *Romans* had conquered it, than the Temple, which ſixty Nations of the Country built at *Lyons* to the Honour of the *Romans*, and of *Auguſtus*; each of theſe Nations gave a Statue with Inſcriptions to adorn the Altar they had erected to that Emperor. When *Caligula* received at *Lyons* for the third Time the Honour of the Conſulſhip, he eſtabliſhed all Sorts of Games, and that famous Academy, where the moſt famous Orators met before the Altar of *Auguſtus*, to contend for the Prize of Eloquence. This City, about an hundred Years after it was built, was reduced to aſhes by Lightning

ning in one Night. *Nero* ſent a large Sum of Money to rebuild it, by which, in leſs than 20 Years, *Lyons* was in a Condition to ſtand out againſt the City of *Vienna*, which followed the Party of *Galba* againſt *Vitellius*. In *Lyons* are ſtill ſome Remains of the ſtately Buildings, with which the *Romans* had adorned it.

LYONS, at preſent, is the ſecond City of *France*, and inferior to none but *Paris*. Being ſituated in the Center of *Europe*, it carries on a moſt Flouriſhing Trade. They reckon it contains 4000 Houſes, and above 90,000 Souls. There are four Collegiate Churches, beſides the Cathedral, thirteen Pariſhes, four Abbeys, four Priories, about fifty Convents, two Hoſpitals, Six Gates, and four Suburbs, two Colleges of Jeſuits. Their Library contains 40,000 Volumes. There are here ſeveral fine Squares, in which ſtands the Town-houſe or Guildhall, one of the fineſt in *Europe*. On each ſide of the Front is a Wing 420 Feet long. In the Middle of the Front is a Tower or Cupola on the Top, and in the Angles are two large Pavillions jutting out: The great Gate is adorned with two Columns of the *Ionick* Order, and leads into a large Hall arched over, where are to be ſeen the Buſtos of *Philip the Fair*, *Charles* VIII. and *Henry* IV. Likewiſe an antient Plate of Braſs, on which is engraved the Oration, which the Emperor *Claudius*, when he was yet but Cenſor, delivered before the *Roman* Senate in Behalf of the Citizens of *Lyons*. The Fort called *Pierre Anciſe*, ſerves as a Priſon for State Criminals.

THE *Exchange* is not ſo conſiderable for its Extent, as the Number of Merchants who daily meet there, and by Words or Paper carry on almoſt the whole Trade of the Kingdom. This City is the See of an Archbiſhoprick.

GRENOBLE in *Dauphiné*, is ſituated on the Conflux of the *Iſere* and the *Drac*, in a Plain at the Foot of the Mountains. It received its Name from the Emperor *Gratian*, Son of *Valentinian* I. from whence it is called in *Latin Gratianopolis*; but it was much more antient, and called *Cularo*, and belonged to the *Allobroges*. It has been a Biſhop's See ever ſince the fourth Century. The *Delphinal* Council eſtabliſhed here in 1340 by *Humbert* II. Dauphin of *Viennois*, was erected into a Parliament in 1453, by *Lewis* XI. The Governor and Lieutenant of the Province reſide here, and have Seats in the Parliament above the firſt Preſident. This City is well peopled, and commanded by a Fort called *la Baſtille*. The *Iſere* divides the City into two unequal Parts; we ſee no fine Buildings here, except the Biſhop's Palace, which owes its Beauty to Cardinal *le Comus*, Biſhop of *Grenoble*, who adorned it with excellent Paintings, repreſenting our Saviour's Life and Paſſion. The Skins and Gloves of *Grenoble* are very much eſteemed; but the Woollen Stuffs, of which they make a great many here, are but coarſe. In the Dioceſe of *Grenoble* are 304 Pariſhes, 240 of which are in *Dauphiné*, and 64 in *Savoy*. There is not one Abbey of Men in the whole Dioceſe, and but one of Maidens, *viz.* that of *Hayes*, of the *Ceſtercian* Order.

VALENCE, whither *Mandrin* was brought and impriſoned, after being taken at the Caſtle of *Rochefort*, ſtands on the Eaſtern Side of the *Rhone*, ſeven Leagues from the *Die*, nine from *Viviers*, and eleven from *Vienne*. It is one of the moſt antient Cities of *Gaul*, ſince it was already a *Roman* Colony in the Time of *Pliny the Elder*, who lived under *Nero* and *Veſpaſian*. It is reaſonably large and well built, the Walls are very ſtrong, but the Citadel raiſed by *Francis* I, is but indifferent.

ferent. There are ſeveral fine Buildings, as the Cathedral Church, the Biſhop's Palace, &c. This Biſhoprick is very antient, for we find a Biſhop there in the Year 300. The Income of it is now about 14,000 Livres a Year. There are in this Dioceſe an hundred and five Pariſhes, ſeventy of which are in *Dauphiné*, and thirty-five in *Vivarais*, and but four Abbeys, two of Men, and as many of Maidens. The Univerſity which was founded at *Grenoble*, by Dauphin *Hubert* II. was removed to *Valence* by *Lewis* XI. Dauphin and afterwards King of *France*. Here are taught Divinity, the Civil and Canon Laws, and Phyſick.

VELAY is a ſmall Country in *Languedoc*, has *Vivarais* on the Eaſt, *Forez* on the North, *Auvergne* on the Weſt, and *Gevandan* on the South. It is full of mountains, which are very cold, being covered with Snow about Six Months in the Year. However it produces more Wheat than the Inhabitants have Occaſion for: Their greateſt Riches conſiſt in their Cattle.

THE moſt conſiderable Place in *Velay* is *Puy*, or *Puy en Velay*, which ſtands on a Mountain, near the River *Loire*, at the Diſtance of about two Leagues from the antient Town of *Rueſcum*, now the Village of *St. Paulham*, out of the Ruins of which it took its Riſe, ſeventeen Leagues from *Viviers* to the North-Weſt, and twenty from *Lyons* to the South-Weſt, and not above four from the Border of *Auvergne*, a fair and well-built City, and an Epiſcopal See, which depends immediately on that of *Rome*, not being ſubject to any Metropolitan; though for the inferior Diſcipline of the Church, it acknowledges the Authority of the Archbiſhop of *Bourges*. The Cathedral, dedicated to the Virgin *Mary*, is an antient and noble Pile of Building, but more eſpecially famous for the Concourſe of Pilgrims, and other devout Perſons

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ſons frequently reſorting thereto. Here are alſo ſeveral Parochial Churches, and a great Number of Monaſteries. The Biſhop, whoſe Dioceſe extends over the whole Country of *Velay*, has the Title of Count of it, and had formerly the Privilege to coin Money. He adminiſters Juſtice together with the King's Seneſchal, who has a Seat here. They make at *Puy* a vaſt Quantity of Laces, which returns them a great deal of Money.

STRASBURG is the moſt conſiderable capital City of all *Alſace*, and was raiſed on or near the Ruins of the antient *Argentoratum*, which the *Romans* built for a Bulwark to their Empire againſt the *Germans*. It is ſituated on the River *Ill*, and was built near the Highway called *Strata* by the *Latin* Writers of the middle Age, whence that City took its Name of *Strateburgum*. The *Ill* runs through the City, and a League below falls into the *Rhine*.

THIS City has enjoyed great Privileges; the Emperor *Maximilian* I. gave it the Right to coin Gold Money ſtamped with the Image of the bleſſed Virgin, with this Inſcription, *Urbem, Virgo, tuam ſerva, O Virgin, defend this City*; which when the *Straſburghers* embraced the Reformation, was changed into this, *Urbem Chriſte, tuam ſerva, O Chriſt, defend thy City.*

THE Government of *Straſburgh* was formerly in the Hands of the Nobility; but the Commoners, or *Plebeians* having got the Superiority, it was ordained that the ſix chief Magiſtrates muſt prove that they are of a *Plebeian* Family, otherwiſe they are not admitted. The Citizens were diſtributed into thirty-eight Companies of Tradeſmen, which have ſince been reduced to twenty.

THE Univerſity enjoys many Privileges, granted by the Emperor *Maximilian* II. and *Ferdinand* II.

It

It is compoſed of the four Faculties, and governed by *Lutheran* Profeſſors, who take the Titles of Deans and Canons of *St. Thomas*, becauſe the Revenues of that Collegiate Church have been annexed to the Univerſity. They confer Degrees both on the Roman Catholicks and Proteſtants, except in Divinity. The Jeſuits have here a noble College, in which are thirty-two Fellowſhips for Students in Philoſophy and Divinity, twenty-four of whom muſt be Natives of the Province. This College has 36,000 Livres Income *per Ann.*

STRASBURGH is a Town of vaſt Extent, and has a double Wall and Ditch all round it; the inner Wall is old, and of no Strength; nor is the outward Wall very good; ſo that it was not capable of making a long Reſiſtance, till the late *French* King added ſuch Works to it, as have rendered it one of the ſtrongeſt Places in *Europe.*

THERE are ſeveral fine Buildings in this City; but the moſt remarkable is the Cathedral, which is one of the grandeſt in *Europe*; above a thouſand Years have been ſpent in building it; the Steeple is a noble Pyramid being 570 Foot high; the Aſcent to the Top is by a Staircaſe of 635 Steps.

IN this Church is a Clock, which is eſteemed a Maſter-piece of *Aſtronomy* and Mechanicks, as well for the Variety as ſingularity of its Motions; ſhewing the Months and Days, marking the Vigils and Feſtivals, pointing out the Eclipſes of the Sun and Moon, the Courſe of the Heavens, the *Phaſes* or Aſpects of the Moon, and its Age, with many other curious Particulars; and on the Top of the Arch ſtands a Cock made of Metal, which ſtretches its Neck and crows, before the Hour ſtrikes. The famous *Copernicus* is ſaid to be the Contriver of this noble Clock.

MACON,

62-69 Mussopius

MACON, or *Maſcon*, is a City of *Burgundy*, ſituate on the River *Soane*, which ſeparates it from the Country of *Breſſe*, and over which there is a Bridge of thirteen Arches, 300 Feet long, and ſix Feet broad; it ſtands on the Declivity of a Hill, about ſeven Leagues W. from *Challon*. It is ſemicircular, about 1300 Paces in Length, 600 in Breadth, and 3000 in Compaſs; the Streets are narrow and cloſe; it is ſuppoſed to contain about 6000 Souls. The Cathedral is narrow and dark, though the Vault or Cieling be pretty high; it has a Set of Bells, the Chime of which is reckoned one of the moſt harmonious in *France*. The Biſhop is Suffragan of *Lyons*. Here is alſo a Collegiate Church, ſeveral Convents of Monks and Nuns, a College of Jeſuits, and two Hoſpitals. This City is the Capital of the Country of *Maconnois*, famous for its excellent Wine. There is at *Macon* a particular Governor, and a Lieutenant from the King. For Civil Juſtice there is a *Preſidial Court*, and for the Finances an *Election*, which is a Court erected to compute the Proportion which every Pariſh muſt raiſe in their Diviſion of the Sum demanded by the King for one Year. There is alſo a publick Granary for Salt.

VILLE FRANCHE is the capital City of *Beaujolois*, five Leagues from *Lyons* and ſix from *Macon*, on the River *Morgon*, which falls into the *Soane* one League above it. Here is an *Election*, a Granary for Salt, and a very fine Street, ſo broad, that it ſeems a Square extending from one End of the City to the other, in the Middle of which there is a beautiful Fountain. This City was founded by *Humbert* the fourth of that Name, Lord of *Beaujou*, towards the Beginning of the 12th Century; among the other Privileges he granted it, in order to draw Inhabitants

Inhabitants thither, there was one very extraordinary: He gave the Huſbands leave to beat their Wives till the Blood run, without being puniſhed for it, provided they did not kill them. This City is ſurrounded with ſtrong Walls and broad Ditches. There is here an Academy of Men of Wit.

ROUANE, or *Roane*, from which this Part of the Country is often called *Rouanez* or *Rouannois*, is ſituate in the *Lower Forez* in the *Lyonnois*. It is an antient City mentioned by *Ptolemy* as one of the chief Places of the *Seguſiani*. Here the *Loire* begins to be navigable, which renders the Situation of this City very convenient for trading with *Lyons* and the adjacent Provinces. *Roannois* is a Duchy, made ſuch in the Year 1366, in Behalf of *Claude Gouffier* Marq. of *Boiſſy*. It has been ſince raiſed to the Dignity of a *Duchy-Peerdom* in 1716, in Favour of Lewis *d' Ambuſſon*, Duke of *Roannois*, called alſo Duke *de la Feuillade*.

VIENNE, a City of *Dauphiné*, is ſituated at the Foot of a Mountain on the River *Rhone*, where it receives the *Jera*, about thirteen Leagues from *Grenoble*, ſeven from *Lyons*, and twelve from *Valence*. It has been a very large and famous City, but at preſent is not above the fourth Part of its former Extent; and both its antient Fortreſſes, *Pipes* and *Baſte'es*, are now demoliſhed. It was founded, as it's generally believed, by the *Allobroges*, and afterwards became a Colony of the *Romans*, who adorned it with a Palace, an Amphitheatre, and divers other magnificent Works, the Ruins whereof are ſtill viſible. After the Decay of the Empire, this City was for ſome Time the Capital of the Kingdom of *Burgundy* and has been ſubject to many Maſters. It is the See of an Archbiſhop, who has the Title of Grand Primate of the Primates of *France*. It's ſaid, that *St. Creſcens*, the Diſciple

Disciple of *St. Paul*, was its first Prelate. The Inhabitants are very expert in making Plates of Iron and Steel, Paper, *&c.*

DAUPHINE being the native Country of our famous Chief *Mandrin*, some Account of that Province may be expected. *Dauphiné*, in *Latin Delphinatus*, is separated from *Lyonnois* and *Languedoc* on the N. by the *Rhone*; the same River parts it on the N. from *Bresse* and *Bugey*, on which Side it also borders on *Savoy*; on the E. it is separated from *Piedmont* and *Savoy* by the *Alps*; and on the S. it has *Provence* and the Country of *Avignon*. It lies between 44 half of Latitude, almost to the 46, and from the 5th Degr. of Longitude E. of *London*, to 7 and half. It has been subject to different Princes, according to the Revolutions, which the several Parts of *France* underwent. At last it had particular Princes of its own who had the Title of *Dauphins de Viennois*; they were almost continually at War with the Counts of *Savoy*. *Dauphin Humbert*, being in a bad State of Health, and having no Children, made his Country over to King *Philip* VI. of *France*, on Condition that the Privileges of the Subjects should be kept entire, that the Provence should for ever be incorporated with the Crown of *France*, and the King's eldest Son enjoy it, with the Arms and Title of *Dauphin:* This was done in the Year 1343, and confirmed in 1349.

F I N I S.

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